Request was also made to expedite ongoing gauge conversion projects. These projects are progressed as per availability of resources.

(c) The new works would be taken up as and when sanctioned.

(d) Does not arise.

More trains for South Central Railway

1632. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trains running in the South Central Railway especially on the routes of Hyderabad-Visakhapatnam are insufficient and three more trains are required;

(b) if so, the comments of Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to run more trains in the route of SCR in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Following additional services have been announced in the Railway Budget for 2009-10 which will serve the passengers on South Central Railway:

1. Vishakhapatnam-Secunderabad-Mumbai Express
2. Bilaspur-Tiruneveli Express
3. Hazrat Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express via Kacheguda
4. Lucknow-Rae Bareli-Bangalore Express
5. Howrah-Bangalore Express
6. Delhi-Secunderabad Express (Non stop)

The frequency of 7091/7092 Secunderabad-Patna Express will be increased from bi-weekly to daily and of 2739/2740 Secunderabad-Vishakhapatnam Express from four days a week to daily.

Price-rise of steel

1633. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the price pattern of domestic steel during the last two years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the prices of steel has continued to rise despite lowering of price of critical raw material; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to contain this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The price trend of a representative category of steel in the retail market of Delhi is given on a quarterly basis from June 2009 to June 2007 in the table below: